Amendments to the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for inspecting *in vivo* migration of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in a body of a subject, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva collected from the subject, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors are positively detected in the parotid saliva.

2. (Previously presented) A method for inspecting *in vivo* migration of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors contained in ingested health supplements, drugs or foods into a body of a subject, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva collected from the subject, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors are positively detected in the parotid saliva.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the inspecting is conducted by comparing the concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in the parotid saliva of the subject after ingestion of the health supplements, drugs or foods with either the concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in the parotid saliva of the subjects before ingestion of the health supplements, drugs or foods, or with the mean concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in the parotid saliva of a control group ingesting no health supplements, drugs or foods.

4. (Previously presented) A method for inspecting effect or action of an administered therapeutic agent on *in vivo* biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in a subject, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva collected from the subject as indicators, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors are positively detected in the parotid saliva, and wherein an increase or decrease in the amount of the vitamins or food factors in the parotid saliva of the subject after being administered with a therapeutic agent compared with either the concentrations of the fat-

soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in the parotid saliva of the subject before taking the therapeutic agent, or compared with the mean concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva of a control group not having taken the therapeutic agent determines the effect of the therapeutic agent on the *in vivo* biosynthesis and metabolism of the vitamins and/or food factors in the subject.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A method for assessing suitability of ingestion or intake of health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors comprising carrying out the method according to claim 2, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.

7. (Previously presented) A method for assessing suitability for administering or dosing a therapeutic agent having effect or action on biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors comprising carrying out the method according to claim 4, and determining whether to ingest the therapeutic agent based on the results.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the parotid saliva is collected using a saliva collecting tool which collects parotid saliva selectively and quantitatively.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the saliva collecting tool has (a) a collection part comprising an absorber for absorbing saliva irreversibly and (b) a quantification part for quantifying the amount of saliva collected to the absorber.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the saliva collecting tool has further a storage container part for holding a saliva preservative solution in which the absorber with the

absorbed saliva is dipped to preserve.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the saliva preservative solution is a water-soluble organic solvent.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising:
(a) extracting collected parotid saliva from an absorber with absorbed parotid saliva, and/or from a preservative solution containing an absorber with absorbed parotid saliva using a water-soluble organic solvent, a hydrocarbon base organic solvent, or a mixture of isopropanol and ethyl acetate,
(b) separating the fat-solublevitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors from the extract by high-performance liquid chromatography, and
(c) detecting the separated fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors are at least one substance selected from the group consisting of CoQ10, lycopene, β-carotene and tocopherol.

15. (Previously presented) A method for screening drugs, health supplements, or foods comprising carrying out the method according to claim 1, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.

16. (Previously presented) A method for assessing suitability of ingestion or intake of health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors, comprising carrying out the method according to claim 3, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, comprising:
(a) extracting the collected parotid saliva from the absorber with the absorbed parotid saliva, and/or from the preservative solution containing the absorber with absorbed parotid saliva using a water-soluble organic solvent, a hydrocarbon base organic solvent, or a mixture of isopropanol and ethyl acetate,
(b) separating the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors from the extract by high-performance liquid chromatography, and
(c) detecting the separated fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors are at least one substance selected from the group consisting of CoQ10, lycopene, β-carotene and tocopherol.

20. (Previously presented) A method for screening drugs, health supplements or foods, comprising carrying out the method according to claim 14, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.

21. (New) A method for assaying for the presence of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in a body of a subject, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva collected from the subject, and positively detecting the fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors.

22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors are at least one substance selected from the group consisting of CoQ10, lycopene, β-carotene and tocopherol.

23. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the parotid saliva is collected using a saliva collecting tool which collects parotid saliva selectively and quantitatively.

24. (New) The method according to claim 21, comprising:
(a) extracting collected parotid saliva from an absorber with absorbed parotid saliva, and/or from a preservative solution containing an absorber with absorbed parotid saliva using a water-soluble organic solvent, a hydrocarbon base organic solvent, or a mixture of isopropanol and ethyl acetate,
(b) separating the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors from the extract by high-performance liquid chromatography, and
(c) detecting the separated fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors.